

## Claims

- [c1] 1. A medical information system, said system comprising:  
a medical information source, said medical information source providing medical information in a medical information format;  
a medical image source, said medical image source providing medical images in a medical image format;  
an interface unit receiving said medical information and translating said medical information into a medical image format-compatible format, receiving said medical image, associating said medical information in said medical image format-compatible format with said medical image, and transmitting said medical information in said medical image format-compatible format and said medical image; and  
a data center receiving said medical information in said medical image format-compatible format and said medical image in said medical image format and storing said medical information in said medical image format-compatible format and said medical image.
- [c2] 2. The system of claim 1, wherein said data center comprises an archive for storing medical images and medical information.
- [c3] 3. The system of claim 1, wherein said data center comprises a viewer for allowing access to medical images and medical information.
- [c4] 4. The system of claim 1, wherein said medical image source comprises a picture archiving and communications system.
- [c5] 5. The system of claim 1, wherein said medical information source comprises a hospital information system.
- [c6] 6. The system of claim 1, wherein said medical information source comprises a radiology information system.
- [c7] 7. The system of claim 1, wherein said data center comprises an application service provider.

- [c8] 8. The system of claim 1, wherein said data center further comprises an external access interface for allowing users to access medical images and medical information at said data center.
- [c9] 9. The system of claim 1, wherein said medical information comprises radiology information.
- [c10] 10. The system of claim 1, wherein said interface comprises a broker for translating said medical information format.
- [c11] 11. The system of claim 10, wherein said broker translates from Health Level Seven format to Structured Query Language format.
- [c12] 12. The system of claim 1, wherein said data center comprises a web server for allowing access to medical images and medical information via at least one web browser.
- [c13] 13. The system of claim 1, wherein said data center comprises a DICOM viewing workstation for allowing access to medical images and medical information.
- [c14] 14. The system of claim 1, wherein said data center further stores links to said medical information.
- [c15] 15. The system of claim 1, wherein said data center further stores links to said medical image.
- [c16] 16. The system of claim 1, wherein said interface unit transmits a link representing the location of said medical information.
- [c17] 17. The system of claim 1, wherein said interface unit transmits a link representing the location of said medical image.
- [c18] 18. A centralized medical information system, said system comprising:  
an interface unit receiving medical information and translating said medical information into a medical image format-compatible format, receiving a medical image, associating said medical information in said medical image format-compatible format with said medical image, and transmitting said medical

information in said medical image format-compatible format and said medical image; and

a data center receiving said medical information in said medical image format-compatible format and said medical image and storing said medical information in said medical image format-compatible format and said medical image.

[c19] 19. The system of claim 18, wherein said data center comprises an archive for storing medical images and medical information.

[c20] 20. The system of claim 18, wherein said data center comprises a viewer for allowing access to medical images and medical information.

[c21] 21. The system of claim 18, wherein said data center comprises an application service provider.

[c22] 22. The system of claim 18, wherein said data center further comprises an external access interface for allowing users to access medical images and medical information at the data center.

[c23] 23. The system of claim 18, wherein said medical information comprises radiology information.

[c24] 24. The system of claim 18, wherein said interface unit comprises a broker for translating said medical information format.

[c25] 25. The system of claim 24, wherein said broker translates from Health Level 7 format to Structured Query Language format.

[c26] 26. The system of claim 18, wherein said data center comprises a web server for allowing access to medical images and medical information via web browsers.

[c27] 27. The system of claim 18, wherein said interface unit transmits a link representing the location of said medical information.

[c28] 28. The system of claim 18, wherein said interface unit transmits a link representing the location of said medical image.

- [c29] 29. A method for integrating transmission of medical information and at least one medical image, said method comprising:  
converting said medical information from a first format into a second format compatible with said at least one medical image; and  
transmitting said medical information in said second format with said at least one medical image to a data center for storage.
- [c30] 30. The method of claim 29, further comprising storing said medical information in said second format with said at least one medical image in said data center.
- [c31] 31. The method of claim 29, further comprising storing said medical information in said second format with said at least one medical image in an archive said data center.
- [c32] 32. The method of claim 29, further comprising storing said medical information in said second format with said at least one medical image in a web based viewer in said data center.
- [c33] 33. The method of claim 29, wherein said data center comprises an application service provider.
- [c34] 34. The method of claim 29, wherein said medical information comprises radiology information.
- [c35] 35. The method of claim 29, wherein said first format comprises Health Level Seven format.
- [c36] 36. The method of claim 29, wherein said second format comprises Structured Query Language format.
- [c37] 37. The method of claim 29, wherein said second format comprises a standard text format.
- [c38] 38. A method for accessing medical information and images, said method comprising:

retrieving an associated medical image and medical information from a remote data center; and  
displaying said associated medical image and medical information.

[c39] 39. The method of claim 38, wherein said data center comprises an application service provider.

[c40] 40. The method of claim 38, wherein said step of retrieving further comprises retrieving said associated medical image and medical information via said data center's archive.

[c41] 41. The method of claim 38, wherein said step of retrieving further comprises retrieving said medical image from a medical image source via said data center.

[c42] 42. The method of claim 38, wherein said medical image source comprises a picture archiving and communication system.

[c43] 43. The method of claim 38, wherein said step of retrieving further comprises retrieving said medical information from a medical information source via said data center.

[c44] 44. The method of claim 43, wherein said medical information source comprises a hospital information system.

[c45] 45. The method of claim 43, wherein said medical information source comprises a radiology information system.

[c46] 46. The method of claim 38, wherein said step of displaying further comprises displaying said associated medical image and medical information via a web server at said data center.

[c47] 47. A method for accessing medical information and images, said method comprising:  
requesting an associated medical image and medical information from a remote data center;  
providing medical information from a medical information source to an

interface unit;  
providing a medical image from a medical image source to an interface unit;  
translating said medical information into reformatted medical information;  
associating said reformatted medical information with said medical image; and  
providing the associated reformatted medical information and medical image.

[c48] 48. The method of claim 47, wherein said medical information source comprises a hospital information system.

[c49] 49. The method of claim 47, wherein said medical information source comprises a radiology information system.

[c50] 50. The method of claim 47, wherein said medical image source comprises a picture archiving and communication system.

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